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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/087,021	02/28/2002	Taruhi Iwagaki	16869N-044600US	4006

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EXAMINER

SHIFERAW, ELENI A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2136

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/087,021

Applicant(s)

IWAGAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Eleni A. Shiferaw

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/20/02, & 7/12/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a **single paragraph** on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nguyen et al. (Nguyen, US Patent No. 5,515,511) in view of Linker et al. (Linker, Patent No.: US 6,901,378 B1).

As per claims 1, 5, and 9, Nguyen teaches a storage device/monitoring system provided with a file system for managing operations to write and read data file by file in concentrated accesses made by a plurality of client apparatuses to said storage device through a network, said storage device comprising:

a first storage means for storing a compression parameter, which are provided for each file as part of file-management information (Nguyen col. 3 lines 38-46, lines 34-59, and col. 2 lines 3-9);

a second storage means for storing file data (Nguyen fig. 1&2 No. 11sub(1)...11sub(n));

a receiving means for receiving a request to write file data from any of said client apparatuses (Nguyen col. 4 lines 27-37);

a second processing means for compressing each second processing unit of said file data to be written as requested by any of said client apparatuses (Nguyen col. 1 lines 48-55); and

a file-system means;

wherein said file-system means includes a means for driving said second processing means on the basis of said compression parameter provided in said file-management information for said specific file (Nguyen col. 1 lines 48-55), and a means for storing said specific file's data into said second storage means after compressing said specific file's data (Nguyen col. 5 claim 1), and

Nguyen fail to teach digital watermarking.

However Linker teaches:

a first storage means for storing a digital-watermark-embedding parameter, which are provided for each file as part of file-management information (Linker col. 6 lines 7-26 and lines 50-55);

a first processing means for embedding a digital watermark into each first processing unit of file data to be written as requested by any of said client apparatuses (Linker col. 6 lines 7-26 and lines 50-55, col. 1 lines 63-64, and col. 10 lines 57-65);

wherein said file-system means includes a means for driving said first processing means on the basis of said digital-watermark-embedding parameter provided in said file-management information for a specific file (Linker col. 6 lines 7-26, and lines 50-55), and

and a means for storing said specific file's data including an embedded digital watermark into said second storage means after compressing said specific file's data including said embedded digital watermark (Linker col. 2 lines 45-48, fig. 2 No. (118, 120& 122), and fig. 8).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Linker within the system of Nguyen because they are analogous in compressing and distributing audio video data over the network to the end users (Linker col. 2 lines 45-48, col. 1 lines 9-15, and col. 6 lines 7-26). One would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Linker within Nguyen because it would enhance security.

As per claims 2 and 6, both Nguyen and Linker teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition both Nguyen and Linker teach a storage device, said storage device further comprising:

a buffer for storing data less than said first processing unit and less than said second processing unit (Nguyen col. 3 lines 9-15, Linker col. 3 lines 37-51); and

a means for recording information on data stored in said buffer as part of said file-management information (Nguyen col. col. 3 lines 9-15, and Linker col. 2 lines 26-34).

As per claims 3 and 7, both Nguyen and Linker teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition Linker teaches a storage device, said storage device further comprising a third storage means for storing a digital-watermark-embedding parameter and a compression parameter,

which are common to all files, wherein said file-system means drives said first processing means and said second processing means on the basis of respectively the digital-watermark-embedding parameter and the compression parameter, which are common to all files, instead of said digital-watermark-embedding parameter and said compression parameter, which are provided in said file-management information for a specific file (Linker col. 2 lines 49-53).

As per claims 4 and 8, both Nguyen and Linker teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition both teach a storage device, wherein said file data includes video data (Nguyen abstract, and Linker col. 2 lines 53-57).

As per claim 10, both Nguyen and Linker teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition Linker teaches a monitoring system wherein said digital-watermark parameter includes camera-number information and said processing means embeds said camera-number information and information on a date/time into said video data (Linker col. 2 lines 26-34).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eleni A. Shiferaw whose telephone number is 571-272-3867. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Eleni Shiferaw

June 7, 2005

CS
6/9/05